UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

UNDP

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COUNTRY AND INTERCOUNTRY PROGRAMMING

UNDP assistance requested by the Government of Barbados

BARBADOS

Note by the Administrator

| Programme period | IPF for period 1972-1976 |
|---|---|
| 1973-1977 | $2.5 million |

## I. Nature of the programming exercise

1. The Government of Barbados decided to submit its country programme to the June 1973 session of the Governing Council based on the aims and objectives of sectoral drafts of the Third National Development Plan (1973-1977). The Plan is in its final stages of preparation.

2. A background paper was not required since Barbados falls into the category of countries with small IPFs. Although a background paper was not prepared, practically all United Nations Agencies submitted country briefs to the Regional Representative which were used extensively in the preparation of the country programme. In October 1972 a working paper draft of the country programme was prepared by the Economic Planning Unit of the Prime Minister's Office in collaboration with the Office of the UNDP Regional Representative in the Caribbean. This working paper was circulated to the agency representatives located in the area for comments and served as a basis for discussions held with the Government of Barbados by the Regional Representative, the Assistant Regional Representative and a UNDP headquarters visiting mission in November 1972.

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3. The first draft of the country programme was prepared following extensive consultations with the National Planning Unit and in collaboration with the Regional Senior Agricultural Adviser and FAO Representative a.i., the Regional Senior Industrial Development Adviser of UNIDO, the ILO Area Director and the WHO Country Representative. In December 1972 the first draft was circulated to all concerned as required and comments from the agencies were received and reviewed with the Economic Planning Unit during January/February 1973. With the assistance of the UNDP Regional Representative's Office, the Government of Barbados submitted the final version of the draft country programme in March 1973.

## II. Relation of the country programme to the development plan of the Government

4. The Government's National Development Plan (1973-1977) gives emphasis to two major objectives, namely, economic diversification and reduction of unemployment. The previous national plan provided for Agricultural diversification, which unfortunately was not attained during that plan period.

5. Under the general objective of economic diversification, the Government gives first priority to agricultural diversification, the importance of which is stressed by the fact that over 40 per cent of its established IPF in the country programme will be devoted to UNDP assistance in the field of agriculture and related activities. The strengthening of Government infrastructure, in support of the tourist industry, particularly in public services and transport and communications and trade will be an area of concentration for UNDP assistance. Technical help in the field of health will constitute the third large component of UNDP assistance within the programme.

## III. Content of the country programme according to sectors and subsectors

6. The careful selection of priority projects in the country programme indicates the vital role which the Government expects UNDP to play in the economic development of Barbados in co-operation with other multilateral and bilateral programmes. The content of the country programme is also influenced by two other factors; namely, the relatively small IPF of $2.5 million, and the fact that Barbados has formerly participated only in large-scale projects of a regional nature. This latter factor has provided flexibility, within the country programme, to embark on significant large-scale projects for the first time. Four new large-scale projects represent nearly 80 per cent of the programmed UNDP resources.

Table 1

Sectoral breakdown of on-going and new projects

| Sector | On-going projects | | New projects | | Total | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Value ($'000) | Per cent | Value ($'000) | Per cent | Value ($'000) | Per cent |
| Physical resources | | | | | | |
| Agriculture | | | 1 025 | 45 | 1 025 | 40 |
| Industry | | | 15 | 1 | 15 | 1 |
| Infrastructure | | | | | | |
| Public services | 150 | 48 | 282 | 13 | 432 | 18 |
| Transport and communications | 30 | 9 | 133 | 6 | 163 | 6 |
| Trade | | | 264 | 12 | 264 | 10 |
| Human resources | | | | | | |
| Social services | 37 | 12 | 30 | 1 | 67 | 2 |
| Labour | | | 71 | 3 | 71 | 2 |
| Health | 94 | 31 | 438 | 19 | 533 | 21 |
| Total programmed | 311 | | 2 258 | | 2 569 | |

7. The sectoral values shown in Table 1 clearly indicate that the highest priority project is the request for assistance in agriculture diversification. This is expected to be a self-contained project covering agricultural planning, research, production, marketing, etc. Three other key projects are Civil Service Training, Establishment of a Bureau of Standards and assistance in the control of Zoonotic diseases.

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Table 2

Sectoral breakdown by size of project

| Sector | Large-scale projects | | | Small-scale projects | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. | Value ($'000) | Per cent | No. | Value ($'000) | Per cent |
| Physical resources | | | | | | |
| Agriculture | 1 | 1 025 | 54 | | | |
| Industry | | | | 2 | 15 | 2 |
| Infrastructure | | | | | | |
| Public services | 1 | 200 | 11 | 5 | 231 | 34 |
| Transport and communications | | | | 4 | 163 | 24 |
| Trade | 1 | 242 | 13 | 1 | 23 | 3 |
| Human resources | | | | | | |
| Social services | | | | 2 | 67 | 10 |
| Labour | | | | 1 | 71 | 10 |
| Health | 1 | 418 | 22 | 2 | 114 | 17 |
| Total programmed | 4 | 1 885 | 100 | 17 | 684 | 100 |

## IV. Utilization of UNDP inputs over the programming period

Table 3

| Year | Phasing of UNDP inputs over the programming period (1973-1977) Estimated UNDP inputs ($'000) | Percentage of the planning figure (1973-77)[a/] |
|---|---|---|
| 1973 | 332 | 11 |
| 1974 | 721 | 25 |
| 1975 | 697 | 25 |
| 1976 | 492 | 18 |
| 1977 | 327 | 12 |
| Unprogrammed balance | 266 | 9 |
| Total UNDP inputs in programming period | 2 835 | 100 |
| Programme reserve | 193 | |

a/ The adjusted planning figure is calculated as follows: IPF 1972-1976, minus commitments programmed for expenditure in 1972, plus one-fifth of the IPF. In the case of Barbados, the figures are as follows: IPF $2.5 million, minus commitments programmed for expenditure in 1972 of $164,900, plus $500,000 representing one-fifth of the IPF, equals the adjusted planning figure of $2,835 million.

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8. The Country Programme of Barbados is closely interrelated with other sources of multilateral and bilateral assistance as well as UNDP and regular programme regional and sub-regional projects.

## V. Special development problems and needs of the country

9. Barbados faces many of the problems associated with small countries which have traditionally been dependent on a single agricultural product. Through the National Development Plan, the Government intends to deal with the need to diversify agricultural production and solve the serious problem of unemployment.

## VI. Recommendation of the Administrator

10. In the light of the views expressed above, the Administrator recommends that the Governing Council:

(a) Approve the proposed UNDP country programme for Barbados within the limit of its approved indicative planning figure and for the duration of its programme period. Until such time as indicative planning figures are established to cover 1977 and subsequent years, the Administrator will proceed with approval action in a manner which will ensure that expenditures during the period 1972-1976 do not exceed the currently established indicative planning figure for that period; and

(b) Authorize the Administrator to proceed with appraisal and approval action on requests for assistance falling within the outlines of the country programme, and calling for planned expenditures which may be contained within the approved indicative planning figure and the financial resources currently available at any given time.

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